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V-Mail Service is available to provide the most expeditious dispatch and reduce the weight of mail to and from the personnel of our Armed Forces outside the continental United States. When addressed to points where micro-film equipment is in operation, a miniature photographic negative of the message will be made and sent by the most expeditious form of transportation available for reproduction and delivery. Messages addressed to or from points where micro-film equipment is not in operation will be transmitted in their original form by the most expeditious means available.

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Write the entire message on the other side below the double line. Write plainly.
- (2) Address exactly as you would an ordinary letter, **PRINTING** the address in the two panels provided.
- (3) Fold according to instructions, seal, and drop in any post office letter drop or street letter box.
- (4) If it is desired to send more than one sheet a separate form must be completed. Enclosures must not be placed in this envelope.
- (5) The original will be destroyed after the corresponding film has been delivered at the destination.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERMIT NO. 80

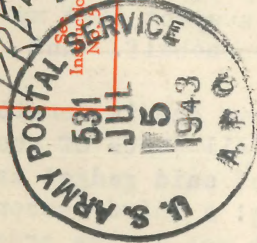
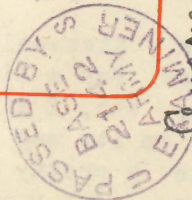
6 V...- MAIL

Mr. Charles E. Loops, Jr.

907 Chowan Ave.
Lynchburg, Virginia

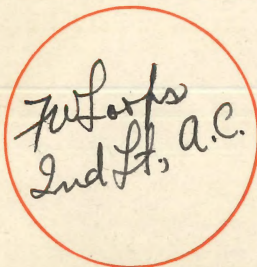
U. S. A.

Changed by
Tutolo, H. A. C.



Lt. Frank W. Loops, O-687527
432 Bomb Sqdn., 17th Bomb Gp.
A.P.O. 520, Postmaster, N.Y.C.

No. _____



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

MR. CHARLES E. LOOPS, JR.
MISTRESS JANET D. LOOPS
907 CHOWAN AVE.

LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA

U. S. A.

Lt. Frank W. Loops, O-667527
(Sender's name)

432 Bomb Sqdn., 17th Bomb Gp.
(Sender's address)

A.P.O. 520, Postmaster, N.Y.C.

July 4, 1943

(Date)

Dear Brother and Janet, (you too, Melba, this is just a coverup cause their birthday is due) Happy Birthday and all that sort of stuff! 'Course I know your birthday will be a thing of the past when you get this, but just the same you will know that I thought of both of yours beforehand, so maybe I won't be thought so hard of! 'Course too, I suspect that my emissary has taken care of all necessary details, but here I am in ~~my~~ my own behalf. And what am I doing making excuses for writing you, anyhow?

You will have to excuse this poor old typewriter, 1st, because an Army one is none too good to start with, and when you have a typewriter in the field, getting all sorts of abuse, well, there you are. Second, the writer is not used to tickling the keys of said gadget as it is in no way akin to the two throttles his mitts are used to caressing! A third reason for the typewriter is that it gave me a chance to pull my rank, as no one was in the orderly tent except a sergeant, and after all, as I'm writing to 2 of you, I can say more by this means and it saves an extra page of VMAIL that I don't have to start with! And as I said before, Phooey on excuses!

There's not an awful lot that I can write about that I haven't already said in the letters to the folks. As far as trips over enemy territory gets, we either go, or we don't, just depends on the schedule. If we do, then all of our hearts are in our mouths till we get back, and if we don't, well, we just figure what other sort of mischief we can get into to keep life from getting too dull! If you ever want to find out what we do, and our reactions, sometime when you get the opportunity, get me pie-eyed, draw up a nice comfortable chair, and relax. Until then, we will both look forward to the day!

Gee, it sure is beginning to get hot around these parts. For awhile it started out being hot just in the day time and being ~~xx~~ real nice and cool at nights, but now, it gets so hot during the day it doesn't get the chance to cool off during the night. Just ~~imagine~~ imagine Temperatures around 120-125 in the shade. And then, go a little farther, no ice, no cold drinks, no airconditioned movies, in fact, no movies! You just sweat, and I ~~can~~ sweat. The natives hereabouts are very consoling, they tell us that August is really the hot month of the year!

Hey, Janet, have I been leaving you out of this discussion, ~~xxxx~~ ^{or} are you just tagging along anyhow? Everytime I get to go to a town I look for a little present to send you, but as yet, I haven't found a thing. One of these days, tho, I will, and when I do, you can just bet your bottom dollar there will be a package on its way to you! Don't start looking for it tho, cause even after I find it, it will take a pretty long time for it to reach you. I sure would like to see you now. Every now and then, I get your picture out of the bag and look at it and think how much you have grown since I last saw you. Your picture is the only one I have with me of anyone, and some time I kid some of the boys who see it and tell them it is a picture of my little girl! They don't believe me tho, they say you are too pretty to be my daughter.

Melba, sometimes I look around at Africa, and think to myself, "well, Georgia does have some advantages, I Guess!" Take it easy, kid, remember I'm getting shot at already!

I'll be glad when my mail finally gets straightened out. the last letter I got from anyone was dated the 3rd of June. That's carrying things too far.

I'm at the bottom of this thing now so I'd best sign off. Be good and eat lots and lots of ice cream for your birthdays, cause I just sit over here and dream about the darn stuff.

'Bye for now, and let's have a letter some time.

Lots of Love,
Frank

V...-MAIL